

### III. Remarks

Claims 2-9 have been cancelled, without prejudice. New claims 10 – 36 have been added. Upon acceptance of this amendment, claims 1 and 10-36 shall be pending.

New claims 10, 23 and 34 are independent claims. Claims 11 through 22, inclusive, are dependent upon claim 10, or claims dependent upon claim 10. Claims 24 through 33, inclusive, are dependent upon claim 23, or claims dependent upon claim 23. Claims 35 and 36 are dependent upon claim 34. Previously, on April 28, 1999, Applicants (a small entity) paid the basic filing fee of \$380; in the application as filed, there was one independent claim, and 9 total claims. With this amendment, there are four (4) independent claims, *i.e.*, one extra independent claim, and 37 claims total, *i.e.*, 17 extra claims (there are no multiple dependent claims). Based upon these extra claims, Applicants hereby submit a check in the amount of \$192 to cover the cost of the extra claims. If additional charges are required, the undersigned respectfully requests notification at the convenience of the Office.

Support for the new claims can be found generally throughout the entire Specification as filed. For example, in new claim 10, the term "target" in reference to an item to be searched, is supported, *inter alia*, in Figure 6, (call-out item 252). The search of a database is supported, *inter alia*, on page 9, lines 15-20 of the Specification as filed. A "fuzzy similarity join" and a "chemical similarity join" are defined, *inter alia*, on pages 13-14 and 24-29 of the Specification as filed. Elimination of items from a database by selection of user-defined criteria is defined, *inter alia*, on page 10, lines 22-25 and page 15, lines 4-11 of the Specification as filed. This recitation is not intended to be exhaustive but rather is provided for convenience.

Statutory "new matter" is not believed to have been entered by way of the amendments or the new claims; however, if the Office believes otherwise, the Office is kindly invited to notify the undersigned upon formal examination. A check in the amount of \$ 192.00 is enclosed herewith to cover the costs associated with the additional claims; a Small Entity Declaration has been filed in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 25, 2000

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